

Torrance

# Press-Herald

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## Junior Citizens' Day Charter Review Group High School Youths To Take Over City Will Continue Studies

Tuesday, Dec. 3, has been designated as Junior Citizens' Day by the city of Torrance. Selected students from the city's high schools will replace city officials in the 12th annual event.

During workshop sessions in the morning and afternoon, students will be faced with solving three hypothetical problems.

Student airport, police, fire, and traffic and lighting officials will discuss plans or constructing and operating a youth-only coffee house with an open-pit barbeque at a busy intersection as

they pertain to their respective departments.

**THE PROBLEM** of initiating a youth employment program for needy youths will be probed by student members of the public works, finance, and personnel departments.

Exploring possibilities of setting up youth club activities in a quonset hut donated by a citizens' group and stocked with donated books will be youth representatives of the recreation, building and safety, and library staff.

Following the morning workshop, students will be

guests of the city at a luncheon to be served at the Recreation Center. Featured speaker will be Harold Sullivan, commissioner for the California Highway Patrol.

**OTHER** speakers will include: Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools; Dr. Owen Griffith, president of the Board of Education; and Mayor Albert Isen. Councilmen and school board members will be introduced. Leading the invocation and benediction will be Rev. Daniel Weaver.

Preceding the 5:30 p.m. city council meeting to be conducted by the Junior Citizens, student participants will attend a Youth Welfare Commission meeting at 3:20 p.m.

**STUDENT** government officials for the day will be named in the near future.

Student mayors in the past have included: Roberta Rogan, Torrance High School, 1957; Pat Reynolds, (See STUDENTS, Page A-2)

## Rose Float Fund Drive Launched

The Torrance Tournament of Roses Association this week launched its annual campaign to secure funds for the city's float entry into the Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade on New Year's Day, according to Robert H. Vroman, association chairman.

More than 3,000 letters are being mailed to business firms throughout the community asking for donations to cover the \$9,000 cost of the float, Vroman stated.

Following the tournament's theme of "A Time to Remember," the local group has selected "Sunday

in the Park" as the title of the Torrance entry.

The flower bedecked float will stand 17 feet high, 20 feet wide, and 42 feet in length, and will depict a late 19th Century park bandstand with an encircling garden of rose beds and rose trees. The bandstand will be of white and wine chrysanthemums with a gay bunting of red and white chrysanthemums and blue cornflowers draped from the railings.

Riding the float will be Sharon Terrill, Miss California; Darcy Jo Barcroft, Miss Torrance; Etta Cumiford, Torrance Princess; and 10 members of the Torrance Area Youth Band. The band members will play music of the Gay 90s during the march through Pasadena.

Contribution letters were prepared and mailed by the Torrance Junior Women's Club and the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.

Donations to the float construction fund should be made payable to the Torrance Tournament of Roses Association and mailed to the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, 1510 Crazes Ave.

Serving on the committee with Vroman are Mrs. Florence Robertson and Robert W. Morris.

## Lighting District Rejected

The City Council has rejected a proposal calling for consolidation of the city's 14 existing street lighting districts into one citywide district.

Arthur T. Horkay, city traffic engineer, who proposed the change, cited the program as an attempt to relieve the city of paying for 30 per cent of all public lighting costs, a move that would save the city \$100,000 that it is currently paying out of general fund monies.

Under the rejected plan, owners of 50-foot lots would pay about \$5 per year.

**MAYOR** Albert Isen blasted the proposal as a "sneaky attempt" to raise taxes. "It wouldn't take you people five minutes to spend that \$100,000 saved out of the general fund," the mayor claimed.

Public Works Director Walter M. Nollac told the council, "You have to make a policy decision here: whether or not to place an assessment on the public for individual service."

Some districts—he cited the Riviera section—do not have nor want street lights, and therefore do not pay for any. "However," Nollac claimed, "they do get the benefit of lighted intersections and arterial streets like Sepulveda, Hawthorne, and Crenshaw. This program would make the charge for these services more uniform and equitable."

## Torrance Educator Heads Superintendents' Group

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools for the Torrance Unified School District, was elected president of the California Association of School Administrators, Section III, at a meeting held today at the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles.

Section III is comprised of school administrators throughout Los Angeles County.

Superintendent of Torrance schools since the district's formation 21 years ago, Dr. Hull is the author of 50 articles which have appeared in national publications during the past 29 years.

**PUBLICATIONS** which have featured his articles have included The American School Board Journal, School Executive, Education Digest, School Business

## Jewelry Reported Stolen

Jewelry valued at more than \$1,500 was taken from two Torrance homes, according to reports filed with Torrance police.

Mrs. James Jordan, 492 Via la Selva, told police someone broke into her home between noon and 4 p.m. Wednesday. She said various pieces of women's jewelry were taken. The loss was estimated at \$750.

Carrie D. Skinner, 18527 St. Andrew's Place, also reported the loss of \$750 worth of jewelry and trading stamps. She said someone broke into her home between noon and 9:45 p.m. Wednesday.

Burglars also broke into a third Torrance home Thursday and escaped with an undetermined amount of cash. Claude C. Cox, 1613 Beech St., told police the entire house had been ransacked.

A second car and two



**MARK ANNIVERSARY** . . . Brief ceremonies were held today at the John F. Kennedy Memorial in Downtown Torrance marking the fifth anniversary of the assassination of the President in Dallas, Tex. Present for the ceremonies were Mrs. Celia Pons, a Torrance civic leader who donated the memorial to the city, and Thomas C. Rupert, city treasurer. Laying a flower on the memorial is Lee Ann Vroman, 5-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vroman of Torrance. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Fire Destroys Garage at Carson City Clerk's Home

An upset can of gasoline and a gas water heater caused at least \$6,000 damage to a garage, car and contents at the home of Carson City Clerk Marilyn Cortina, 1819 E. 215th Place, Thursday morning, County Firemen report.

FUMES WERE quickly ignited by the heater in a corner of the garage and as Cortina fled unscathed, the fire spread to a 1967 model sports car. Gas from the car then further fueled the flames. By the time six units from the County Fire Department responded to the 8:25 a.m. call the garage was totally involved. Firemen controlled

the blaze within 10 minutes but were on the scene until 10 a.m. mopping up.

Battalion Seven Chief Paul Schneider credited a fire wall with preventing the fire's spread to the adjoining home, valued at \$24,000.

BESIDES the sports car and heater, a washer, dryer, freezer, go-cart, paint, paintings and imported Mexican picture frames were reported destroyed by the Cortinas as well as the garage roof and three walls.

Also lost to the flames was \$300 in football equipment and uniforms belonging to the Cortinas. (See FIRE, Page A-2)

## Silver Star Awarded To Redondo Soldier

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Diaz will receive the posthumous presentation of medals honoring their son, Gary, who was killed in Vietnam last Feb. 4.

Ceremonies honoring the young soldier will be held by Post Commander Col. Patrick D. Mulchay Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. at Fort MacArthur.

The Diaz family has been informed that their son has been decorated posthumously with the Silver Star for gallantry in action, the Purple Heart and the Good Conduct Medal.

Prior to death, Diaz was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Ribbon.

Serving as a rifleman with Company D, Diaz was on a search and destroy mission in Thua Thien Province when he was killed.

Diaz enlisted in the Army in June, 1967, and underwent training at Fort Ord.

Mr. and Mrs. Diaz have a son, Steve, 14, and two daughters, Mrs. Cheryl Colwell, and Debra Diaz, 17.

## Next Session Slated Dec. 11 By Committee

The Torrance Charter Review Committee, ordered dissolved effective Dec. 31 by a split City Council last Tuesday, has scheduled another session for Wednesday, Dec. 11.

The announcement came last night after a 15-minute closed session which following a public hearing on the committee's tentative draft charter.

Councilmen voted 4-3 Tuesday to dissolve the committee, effective Dec. 31. The action came after Larry Bowman, chairman of the Charter review group, had asked for a two-month extension on the committee's deadline for a final report. Bowman also asked for \$3,000 to hire a consultant to help write the final draft.

**BOTH** the extension and the request for a consultant were denied by councilmen, who then ordered the committee to submit its final report by Dec. 31.

Mayor Albert Isen made the motions to dissolve the committee after a sharp attack on the committee's proposed charter.

During a two and one-half hour hearing last night, various city department heads pleaded with the committee to reconsider plans to modify civil service regulations affecting department chiefs.

**UNDER THE** proposed charter, department heads would be directly accountable to the city manager and not under the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission.

Charles Shartle, city planning director, claimed this

change would put unfair pressures on department heads and on the city manager.

"I make recommendations that involve the value of private property," he said, "sometimes changing that value in excess of half a million dollars. This charter change would open the door to strong financial pressures that would be very hard to resist."

**DEPARTMENT** heads Walter M. Nollac (Director of Public Works) and John J. McKinnon (Superintendent of Building and Safety), echoed Shartle's sentiments. Other discussion included a request from the Torrance Human Relations Council (See CHARTER, Page A-2)

## Symphony Concert Planned

The West Coast Brass Ensemble will be featured Sunday, Dec. 1 in a pops concert by the Torrance-South Bay Civic Symphony.

The concert is scheduled for 4 p.m. in the auditorium at Mira Costa High School in Manhattan Beach.

Elyse Aehle will conduct the orchestra in a program which will feature selections from "West Side Story" and "Fun With Mary Poppins." Other selections will include the Knightsbridge March, Tschalkowsky's Caprice Italiane, "Mardi Gras" from the Mississippi Suite, and La Vie Parisienne.

## City Crews Mark Holiday ---

Rubbish collection crews in the city will observe the Thanksgiving holiday next Thursday, Walter M. Nollac, director of public works, has announced. Rubbish collections normally made on Thursday will be made on Friday next week, with crews working Saturday to make the normal Friday pickups. Regular schedules will be resumed Monday, Dec. 2.

## School Gets Bomb Threat ---

An unknown caller with a "calm voice" called North High School Thursday and told the secretary two bombs had been planted on the campus. Julia Barck told Torrance police she received the call about 11:10 a.m. "There are two bombs planted at North High School in two different places and they are set to go off at 11:40," the caller told the secretary. Units from the Torrance Fire Department were called to the school and remained there until after 11:40 without incident.

## Burglary Suspect Arrested ---

A 30-year-old Harbor City woman was arrested early Friday morning on suspicion of burglary after Torrance police observed her near a Goodwill collection box which had been burglarized. Arrested was Pauline Albina Manqueros, of 1231 W. 252nd St. Police said they observed the woman near the Goodwill collection box at Pacific Coast Highway and Crenshaw Boulevard about 2 a.m. Officers said several bags of clothing, shoes, and many other small items were found in the trunk of the woman's car.



DR. J. H. HULL

Management, The Nation's Schools, Better Schools, Community Service, Education Summary, School and